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OCT 27 2004

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Our Ref.: 2551-109
Your Ref.: Appln No. 09/899,303 Date: October 27, 2004

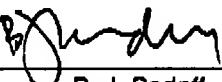
To: Examiner Li, Bao Q.
Firm: USPTO - Group 1648
Facsimile No.: Facsimile No.: 7038729306 (Examiner's Tel. No.:5712720904)
From: B. J. Sadoff

Number of Pages (including cover sheet): 20

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B. J. Sadoff

ATTACHMENT/S: Second Amendment Under Rule 116, two (2) cover sheets, three (3) pages Declaration & seven (7) page alignment of known E1 sequences

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			
In re Patent Application of			
Maertens et al.		Atty. Ref.:	<u>2551-109</u>
Serial No.	<u>09/899,303</u>	Group:	<u>1648</u>
Filed:	<u>July 6, 2001</u>	Examiner:	<u>Li, Bao Q.</u>
For:	<u>PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE</u>		

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116
EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURES

In re Patent Application of Atty Dkt. 2551-109
 Maertens et al. C# M#
 Serial No. 09/899,303 Examiner: Li, Bao Q.
 Filed: July 6, 2001 Date: October 27, 2004
 Title: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC USE

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RESPONSE/AMENDMENT/LETTER

This is a response/amendment/letter in the above-identified application and includes an attachment which is hereby incorporated by reference and the signature below serves as the signature to the attachment in the absence of any other signature thereon.

 Correspondence Address Indication Form Attached.**Fees are attached as calculated below:**

Total effective claims after amendment	58	minus highest number			
previously paid for	61	(at least 20) =	0	x	\$ 18.00

Independent claims after amendment	4	minus highest number			
previously paid for	6	(at least 3) =	0	x	\$ 88.00

If proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$300.00 (ignore improper)					
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Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$430.00/2 months; \$980.00/3 months)					
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Terminal disclaimer enclosed, add \$ 110.00					
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<input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached					

Subtotal	\$	0.00
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If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract					
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims "small entity" status.	<input type="checkbox"/> Statement filed herewith				

Rule 58 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)					
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Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)					
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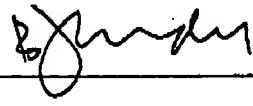
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TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$	0.00
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
 By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,663

Signature: 

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**RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116
EXPEDITED HANDLING PROCEDURES**

In re Patent Application of Atty Dkt. 2651-109
 Maertens et al. C# M#
 Serial No. 09/899,303 TC/A.U. 1648
 Filed: July 6, 2001 Examiner: Li, Bao Q.
 Title: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND
 THERAPEUTIC USE

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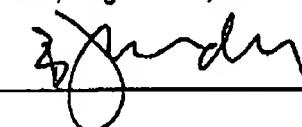
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Petition is hereby made to extend the current due date so as to cover the filing date of this paper and attachment(s) (\$110.00/1 month; \$430.00/2 months; \$980.00/3 months)					
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<input type="checkbox"/> Please enter the previously unentered , filed					
<input type="checkbox"/> Submission attached					
Subtotal					\$ 0.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract					-\$ 0.00
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Rule 56 Information Disclosure Statement Filing Fee (\$180.00)					
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)					
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NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.
 By Atty: B. J. Sadoff, Reg. No. 36,863

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In re Patent Application of

Maertens et al. Atty. Ref.: 2551-109; Confirmation No. 3515

Appl. No. 09/899,303 TC/A.U. 1648

Filed: July 6, 2001 Examiner: Li, Bao Q.

For: PURIFIED HEPATITIS C VIRUS ENVELOPE PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSTIC AND
THERAPEUTIC USE

* * * * *

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October 27, 2004

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Sir:

SECOND AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Supplemental to the Amendment filed August 30, 2004, entry and consideration of the following Amendments and remarks are requested. As the original response to the Office Action of June 30, 2004 was filed within two months of the mailing of the Office Action (i.e., on Monday, August 30, 2004) and an Advisory Action has not yet issued, further extension fees are not believed to be required. See, page 7 of the Office Action dated June 30, 2004. The Office is authorized by the attached Transmittal Cover to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 14-1140 for any missing or deficient fee required for consideration of the present paper.